



THE CLEVELAND MUSEUM OF ART

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Donna Brock,
216-707-2260
dbrock@clevelandart.org

The Cleveland Museum of Art Features Annual Circle of Masks Festival April 22

Circle of Masks Kicks Off 18th Parade the Circle Season

CLEVELAND, OH (March 21, 2007) — The 18th annual Parade the Circle season officially kicks off Sunday, April 22, 2007, from 1 to 4 p.m., when the Cleveland Museum of Art (CMA) presents the annual **Circle of Masks** Festival. In addition to kicking off the Parade season, **Circle of Masks** introduces the annual parade theme, which for 2007 is “Symbiosis: A Lyrical Discord of Harmonious Contradictions.” This free event will explore and celebrate the many connotations of Symbiosis through performance and visual activities, and culminates with an interactive audience participatory dance performance.

Circle of Masks participants are invited to create masks with Parade artists Lizzie Roche (Lyrical Discord) and Michael Guy-James (Harmonious Contradictions). The artists will offer assistance in creating the masks during the mask-making workshops in CMA’s lower-level classrooms from **1 to 3:15 p.m.** At **3:30 p.m.**, participants and audience members will be invited to don their masks and join the finale dance of masks performance, “Candid Cacophony,” led by **Inlet Dancers**.

Prior to the closing dance of masks, visitors can enjoy a series of free dance performances by Inlet Dancers, choreographed by Bill Wade with music by Ryan Lott and verse by Story Rhinehart. At 1:30 and 2:30 p.m., guests can enjoy “Amicable Ambivalence.” At 2 and 3 p.m., the performance is entitled “Barefaced Bamboozle.”

The Circle of Masks Festival also is the first opportunity to see and purchase this year’s Parade posters and T-shirts designed by artist Jill VanOrden of Vermont.

18th Annual Parade the Circle Celebration Coming Soon

An art parade coupled with activities and entertainment, attracting more than 50,000 spectators and 2,000 participants to Cleveland’s cultural hub, University Circle, this year’s **Parade the Circle** is sure to engage and delight those attending this **free** event. Slated for **Saturday, June 9, 2007, from**

11 a.m. to 7p.m., with some activities continuing through early evening, the daylong community arts event will feature a colorful arts parade at noon, family activities provided in Circle Village by more than two dozen University Circle Organizations, food and performing artists.

For information about the Circle of Masks or Parade the Circle, call The Cleveland Museum of Art, 216-707-2483. For information about Circle Village call University Circle Inc., 216-707-5034.

Parade the Circle is presented by the Cleveland Museum of Art. The Ohio Arts Council helped fund this program with state tax dollars to encourage economic growth, educational excellence, and cultural enrichment for all Ohioans. Circle Village is presented by University Circle Inc. Promotional support for Parade the Circle provided by 89.7 WKSU and Cleveland Magazine.

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